

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01  
PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 CU-02 /059 W  
-----261203Z 050231 /23-11

O R 261105Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8847  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMCONSUL IBADAN  
AMCONSUL KADUNA  
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 0871

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, TZ, NI, US  
SUBJECT: VISIT TO TANZANIA AND NIGERIA BY ANDREW YOUNG

REF: STATE 15883

1. AS INDICATED IN REFTTEL, PROPOSED VISIT BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG  
HIGHLY OPPORTUNE. TOP LEVEL FMG OFFICIALS WILL OF COURSE EXPECT  
YOUNG TO SPEAK TO FUTURE DIRECTION OF US POLICY IN SOUTHERN AND  
SOUTH AFRICA AND WILL NO DOUBT SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO URGE  
ON YOUNG, AS THEY DID ON SENATOR CLARK LAST MONTH, FMG'S  
IDEAS OF WHAT AMERICA'S COURSE OUGHT TO BE.

2. SCHEDULING YOUNG'S CONVERSATIONS WITH OBASANJO AND OTHER TOP  
FMG PERSONALITIES WILL REQUIRE AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE AS POSSIBLE  
REGARDING EXACT DATES YOUNG MIGHT BE HERE. JURBARS IN KADUNA  
FEBRUARY 5 AND 8 WILL ENGAGE MOST OF FMG HIERARCHY, AS WILL THE  
CLOSING CEREMONIES OF FESTAC IN LAGOS FEBRUARY 12. SOME TEN  
AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE ARE SCHEDULED TO BE IN NIGERIA FOR  
ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE DURBARS AND/OR THE CLOSING CEREMONIES.  
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US AND NEW ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE PROVIDED OPTIMUM EXPOSURE  
WERE YOUNG ABLE TO ATTEND BOTH FEBRUARY 8 DURBAR AND FESTAC  
CLOSING CEREMONIES ON 12TH. IF CHOICE MUST BE MADE BETWEEN THE TWO  
AND YOUNG'S SCHEDULE PERMITS, WA WOULD OPT FOR HIS PRESENCE AT  
FESTAC CLOSING ON 12TH. IN LATTER CASE. MEETINGS WITH FMG  
OFFICIALS COULD BE SCHEDULED SAY ON 10TH AND/OR 11TH, OR ON  
13TH (ALTHOUGH A SUNDAY) AND/OR 14TH. IF YOUNG CANNOT REMAIN

IN AFRICA UNTIL FEBRUARY 12, WE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT HE INCLUDE THE FEBRUARY 8 KADUNA DURBAR WITH CONVERSATIONS WITH FMG LEADERS BEFORE OR AFTER.

3. FOR MAXIMUM POSITIVE IMPACT ON BEHALF OF NEW US ADMINISTRATION, WE BELIEVE YOUNG SHOULD BRING A SIGNED LETTER (IN AFRICAN PARLANCE A "SPECIAL MESSAGE") FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO. SUCH MESSAGE MIGHT CONGRATULATE FMG AND NIGERIAN PEOPLE FOR HOSTING FESTAC SUCCESSFULLY, EMPHASIZE US INTEREST IN ON-GOING HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE WITH FMG, REITERATE DESIRE OF USG AND PRIVATE SECTOR STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC COLLABORATION WITH NIGERIA, AND AFFIRM AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE AND SELF-DETERMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY CONFIRMATION OF VISIT DATES AND INDICATION OF THOSE FMG OFFICIALS AND OTHERS IN ADDITION TO OBASANJO AND GARBA WITH WHOM YOUNG WOULD WANT TO MEET.

5. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT-OWNED "NEW NIGERIA" (WHICH REFLECTS THE VIEWS OF THE MORE NATIONALISTIC AND ANTI-WESTERN ELEMENTS WITHIN THE FMG) SAID IN EDITORIAL JANUARY 21 THAT THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO UN HAD GIVEN "CAUSE FOR ALARM" AS HE "SEEMS TO REGARD THE RACIAL SUPREMACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA AS THOUGH THEY ARE THE SAME AS THE GEORGIA REDNECKS HE IS SO FAMILIAR WITH." PAPER URGED HIM TO ENGAGE IN "REGULAR CONVERSATIONS WITH HIS AFRICAN COLLEAGUES AT THE UN TO RECTIFY THIS ERROR." ON THE OTHER HAND, MOST OTHER PAPERS HAVE PRAISED PUBLIC POSITIONS YOUNG HAS TAKEN IN RECENT MONTHS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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